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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention relates to a method and apparatus for correcting frequency offset of a local oscillator in a direct sequence spread spectrum receiver such as UMTS. Received signals comprise a plurality of sequential slots of data. At least one of these includes synchronization data. A correlation is performed between this received data and a locally stored synchronization code. Subsequently, the received data is phase adjusted and a further correlation performed between the phase adjusted data and the locally stored synchronization code. The strongest correlation peak is then determined and a phase offset to be applied to the local oscillator is estimated from the phase adjustment required to produce the strongest peak. This is subsequently applied to the local oscillator.